



My Autumn Holidays

1. Reading – Emma's Autumn Break

During the autumn break, Emma went to the countryside with her family. They stayed in a small house near a forest.

One morning, they were walking in the woods when it started to rain. They quickly ran back to the house and made some hot chocolate.

Later that day, Emma was taking photos of the lake when her brother fell into the water! Luckily, he wasn't hurt — just wet and cold.

The next day, they were driving to a small village when they saw a fox crossing the road. Emma took a picture before it disappeared into the trees.

In the evenings, they were watching movies when the electricity suddenly went off. They laughed and played cards by candlelight instead.

During the second week, Emma stayed at home. She was doing her homework when her best friend called her, and they decided to go to the cinema together.

These holidays were full of funny surprises, and Emma really enjoyed them.

2. Comprehension Questions

1. What happened when Emma and her family were walking in the woods?
 2. What was Emma doing when her brother fell into the water?
 3. What did they see while they were driving to the village?
 4. What happened when they were watching movies?
 5. What was Emma doing when her friend called her?
 6. How did Emma feel about her holidays?
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3. Grammar Focus – Past Continuous + Past Simple

Look at these examples from the text:

- They **were walking** in the woods **when it started** to rain.
- Emma **was taking** photos **when her brother fell** into the water.
- They **were watching** a movie **when the electricity went off**.

👉 Rule:

- Use **Past Continuous** for an action **in progress** (long action).
- Use **Past Simple** for a **short action** that **interrupts** the first one.

✂ Structure:

While / When + subject + **was/were** + **V-ing**, subject + **past simple**.

→ *They were cooking dinner when the phone rang.*

4. Practice – Complete with the correct tense

Use the **Past Continuous** or the **Past Simple** form of the verbs in brackets.

1. Emma _____ (take) photos when it _____ (start) to rain.
 2. They _____ (walk) in the forest when they _____ (see) a deer.
 3. Her brother _____ (play) outside when he _____ (fall).
 4. Emma _____ (do) her homework when her friend _____ (call) her.
 5. They _____ (watch) a movie when the lights _____ (go) off.
 6. It _____ (snow) when they _____ (arrive) at the cabin.
 7. I _____ (read) a book when my parents _____ (come) home.
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5. Writing Task

Write 6–8 sentences about **something funny or surprising** that happened to you.

Use **Past Continuous + Past Simple**.

Examples:

I was walking to school when I saw a famous person.

We were having dinner when the lights went out.